



News Release

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Workers at Gas City's Amcast Automotive eligible for federal aid

INDIANAPOLIS (June 28, 2006) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development announced today that the U.S. Department of Labor has ruled that former employees of Gas City's Amcast Automotive are eligible to receive federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released. In response to a petition filed on behalf of the workers, an investigation began on May 16, 2006.

The Department of Labor investigation revealed that production and employment declined in 2005 and during January through April 2006. The Department of Labor surveyed the subject firm's major declining customers regarding their purchases of cast aluminum in 2004, 2005 and January through March 2006. The surveys revealed that customers increased import purchases during the relevant period. Consequently, workers at the Gas City plant qualified for TAA benefits and the findings were certified on June 12, 2006. With the ruling, any employee who has been or will be totally or partially separated from employment on or after May 15, 2005 through June 12, 2008 is eligible to apply for adjustment assistance.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

Additionally, the Department of Labor issued a certification for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for separated older workers at the Gas City Amcast Automotive facility. It was found that a significant number of workers at the company age 50 or over possess skills that are not easily transferable and that competitive conditions within the industry are adverse. Older workers may choose between regular TAA benefits or a wage subsidy of 50% of the difference between their new salary and old salary, up to \$10,000.

Eligible parties may contact the Marion WorkOne at (765) 668-8911, or any WorkOne Center for more information.

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Note to media: a separate TAA ruling on Amcast's Fremont facility is still pending.